

#### SAVE Coalition's Participating Professional Organizations:

- American Council of Engineering Companies/Missouri (ACEC/MO)
  - American Institute of Architects/Missouri (AIA/MO)
- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
  - Missouri Society of Professional Engineers (MSPE)
  - -Structural Engineers Association of Kansas & Missouri (SEAKM)
  - Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI)



# WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE SAVE PROGRAM?

The goals of the Structural Assessment Visual Evaluation (SAVE) Coalition are to assist the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) in the following:

- 1. Implementing an emergency assessment of building conditions following catastrophic events.
- 2. Maintaining a Safety Assessment Administrative Plan for Volunteers to use in performing building and structure evaluations following catastrophic events.
- 3. Developing and managing an acceptable training and accreditation program for volunteers.
- 4. Maintaining a roster of volunteers by regions of the state.
- 5. Developing an "alert system" to contact volunteers and marshal these personnel to appropriate locations.

# IS ANY SPECIAL TRAINING REQUIRED?

SAVE volunteers must attend the ATC-20 Post Earthquake Safety Evaluation of Buildings course to receive SAVE inspector credentials and become a SAVE team member qualified to inspect disaster damaged buildings. A panel of earthquake and structural experts and building officials has approved all training materials used in this course. During the course, procedures and documents are presented which promote uniformity in the rating of building damages so that different individuals examining the same building will arrive at the same conclusion about its relative safety. At the course, each SAVE inspector will receive a field manual and detailed instructions to guide their future work. Some professional organizations also award continuing education credit for completion of this course.

# S.A.V.E. Volunteers

The Missouri Structural Assessment and Visual Evaluation (S.A.V.E.)

Coalition



Helping Others in Times of Great Need

# The Missouri Structural Assessment and Visual Evaluation (S.A.V.E.) Coalition



#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO JOIN?

Volunteers who are architects or professional engineers, or building inspectors or skilled construction industry personnel with at least 5 years of verifiable general building design, construction, or inspection experience.

# WHAT AUTHORIZES THE SAVE COALITION?

The SAVE (Structural Assessment Visual Evaluation) Coalition was implemented by RSMo 44.023 to establish a building inspection program for all disaster events, both natural and manmade.

# WHY IS THIS PROGRAM SO IMPORTANT?

Damaging Earthquakes of 6.0 or greater reoccur in the New Madrid Seismic Zone about every 80-100 years (the last one in 1895). There are at least 47 counties along the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers where there is likely to be some serious damage resulting from such an earthquake. Moreover, the 3 largest earthquakes in mainland U.S. history occurred in the New Madrid Seismic Zone in 1811-1812.

### **About This Program**

The SAVE Coalition's objective is to assist the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) in the execution of its responsibilities with respect to the use of qualified volunteers in the emergency assessment of buildings following a catastrophic event such as an earthquake, tornado, flood or manmade disaster which causes structural damages.

When a disaster strikes a community, there is an immediate need for damage inspections throughout the affected areas. People need to be kept from using unsafe buildings, and safe shelter must be provided for those left homeless. Regular building inspection officials may become overloaded instantly and require additional help. It is essential that qualified SAVE inspectors quickly identify structures that are safe for reentry and those that must be avoided.

When requested, the SAVE Coalition's volunteers are available to work for up to three days inspecting buildings to determine if they are safe for occupation. During this service period, the volunteer inspectors are immune from liability for acts committed in the performance of their official emergency duties, except in cases of willful misconduct or gross negligence. Incidental expenses incurred by the inspectors are paid by the local jurisdictions they serve.

SAVE Coalition inspectors' scope of responsibility is limited to the assessment of buildings and vertical structures. The evaluation of highways, roads and bridges, utilities, dams and other such structures will be conducted by others.

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